



September 23, 1998

Carole Washburn, Secretary
[Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission](#)
1300 Evergreen Park Drive SW
P.O. Box 47250
Olympia, WA 98504-7250

SUBJECT: Docket No. UE-981126 – Electric Energy Efficiency Programs and Tariff Rider

Dear Ms. Washburn:

As a stakeholder in Washington Water Power's (Company) Demand Side Opportunities Group and as a representative of the Energy Policy Group at the Department of Community, Trade and Economic Development, I would like to indicate our support for the Company's current filing modifying Schedules 90 and 91. I would also like to take this opportunity to share with the Commission some comments on the Company's current energy efficiency programs, their process, and the forward looking nature of their current filing.

The Company currently has a useful mix of programs that they offer their customers. I believe the opportunity exists to design a modified program mix that more aggressively captures energy efficiency savings. The Company's proposals to create the Triple E Board and bring in some national expertise to assist with this task are strong indicators that they are prepared to make such modifications.

Staff at the Company have been consistently responsive to stakeholders' concerns and requests throughout the review of their current program mix and development of their current filing. It reflects well on the Company and its employees that they are presenting a proposal to secure ongoing funding for energy efficiency and low-income weatherization programs more than a year before their current programs expire.

This filing displays a much-needed commitment to public purposes at a time of flux in this industry. CTED has publicly supported a tariff rider type mechanism such as the Company's as one way to obtain funds for public purpose programs and we support their use of it in this filing. I am encouraged that the Company is willing to link the future

magnitude of their tariff rider with a market indicator such as the availability of potential energy efficiency resources. I look forward to having the Triple E Board and the Company conduct that analysis in the year 2000.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Klumpp
Energy Policy Specialist

cc: Thomas Dukich, WWP
Bruce Folsom, WWP
Doug Kilpatrick, UTC